

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 IO-14 ACDA-19 OMB-01

SAJ-01 DRC-01 /121 W

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O R 171522Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2608

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION BERLIN

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 07937

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GW

SUBJECT: SCHMIDT'S GOVERNMENT DECLARATION

THIS, THE FIRST OF TWO TELEGRAMS REPORTING THE
GOVERNMENT DECLARATION MADE IN THE BUNDESTAG MAY 17 BY
CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, WILL DEAL WITH GENERAL AND FOREIGN
POLICY ASPECTS. THE LONGEST PART OF THE DECLARATION,
DEALING DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WITH ECONOMIC MATTERS
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WILL BE REPORTED SEPTEL.

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE GOVERNMENT DECLARATION EMPHASIZED "CONTINUITY" AND "CONCENTRATION", I.E. IT ANNOUNCED THAT THE SCHMIDT-GENSCHER ADMINISTRATION WOULD RELY ON THE GENERAL POLICY ESTABLISHED BY THE BRANDT-SCHEEL GOVERNMENT WITH INCREASED ATTENTION TO CURRENT PROBLEMS WHICH CAN BE DEALT WITH WITHOUT UNDULY STRAINING THE GERMAN ECONOMY. THE DECLARATION ALSO EMPHASIZED THE CONTINUATION OF GERMANY'S FOREIGN POLICY WITH EMPHASIS ON THE POLITICAL UNION OF EUROPE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ALLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES. END SUMMARY.

1. SCHMIDT BEGAN THE DECLARATION WITH A FEW PARAGRAPHS IN PRAISE OF BRANDT AND SCHEEL AND THEN LISTED THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS, EITHER COMPLETED OR IN THE PROCESS OF BEING SO, OF THE "SOCIALIST-LIBERAL" COALITION, EMPHASIZING A) TAX REFORM, B) CO-DETERMINATION IN INDUSTRY, C) CONTROL OF LAND SPECULATION, D) PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, AND E) EDUCATION. HE NOTED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT IN THE LAST 3 YEARS PENSIONS HAVE INCREASED 44 PER CENT AND THAT EVEN AFTER ALLOWANCES ARE MADE FOR INFLATION, THE REAL INCREASE WAS NINETEEN PER CENT. HE THEN LISTED A NUMBER OF LAWS ENACTED IN RECENT YEARS-- E.G. THOSE PROTECTING RENTERS, INCREASING MEDICAL CARE, AIDING THE HANDICAPPED, ETC.--AND SAID THAT IT WAS A RECORD OF REFORM TO BE PROUD OF.

2. HE THEN SPENT APPROXIMATELY TEN MINUTES OF AN HOUR AND A HALF ON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY EMPHASIZING AT THE BEGINNING THAT GERMANY WILL CONTINUE TO COOPERATE IN MAINTAINING THE NECESSARY BALANCE OF POWER TO MAINTAIN PEACE. HE THEN REITERATED GERMANY'S COMMITMENT TO THE POLITICAL UNION OF EUROPE "IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES", CALLED NATO "THE ELEMENTARY BASIS OF OUR SECURITY" AND PLEDGED GERMAN EFFORTS TO INCREASE THE "POLITICAL STRENGTH" OF THE ALLIANCE. SCHMIDT THEN SAID THAT THE BALANCE OF POWER IN THE WORLD AND THE SECURITY OF WESTERN EUROPE WILL DEPEND, FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, ON "THE MILITARY AND POLITICAL PRESENCE OF THE UNITED STATES IN EUROPE".

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3. SCHMIDT THEN PLEDGED THE FRG TO COOPERATE WITH ITS ALLIES IN THE AREA OF ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AND NOTED "NOT WITHOUT CONCERN" THE INCREASING ARMAMENT EFFORTS AMONG THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES. HE WISHED SUCCESS TO SALT, PLEDGED THE FRG TO DO WHAT IT CAN TO MAKE MBFR A SUCCESS, EXPRESSED THE INTENTION OF MAINTAINING GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE USSR AND OTHER MEMBERS

OF THE WARSAW PACT "ON THE STURDY BASIS OF OUR MEMBER-SHIP IN NATO" AND SAID THE FRG WILL GIVE TO CSCE A "CONFIDENCE-BUILDING SIGNIFICANCE".

4. HE THEN NOTED THAT THE FRG HAD PLAYED ITS PROPER ROLE IN THE GENERAL PROGRESS TOWARD DETENTE IN THE WORLD THROUGH ITS TREATIES WITH THE EAST WHICH, IN TURN, HAD MADE THE FOUR POWER AGREEMENT ON BERLIN POSSIBLE AND PLEDGED HIS ADMINISTRATION TO ENSURE BERLIN'S VIABILITY, STRENGTHEN CONFIDENCE OF BERLINERS IN THE FUTURE AND FURTHER DEVELOP THE TIES BETWEEN WEST BERLIN AND THE FRG. WITH REFERENCE TO THE DDR, HE REITERATED

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THAT THE RELATIONS BETWEEN IT AND THE FRG ARE OF "A SPECIAL KIND", AND NOTED THAT THE TREATIES BETWEEN THE TWO GERMAN STATES MUST BE FULFILLED NOT ONLY TO THE LETTER BUT ALSO IN THE SPIRIT AND CALLED THE GUILLAUME SPY CASE "A SERIOUS BURDEN" ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE DDR AND THE FRG. HE ENDED THIS SHORT SECTION ON FOREIGN POLICY BY NOTING HIS GOVERNMENT'S GREAT INTEREST IN A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND, IN REFERENCE TO GERMAN RELATIONS WITH ASIA, LATIN AMERICA

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AND AFRICA, SAID THAT THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION MUST APPLY EVERYWHERE.

5. HE THEN TURNED TO THE LONGEST SECTION OF HIS ADDRESS, MATTERS WITH A PREDOMINANTLY ECONOMIC ASPECT (SEE SEPTTEL), AND AT THE END DEVOTED A FEW PARAGRAPHS TO THE GENERAL IDEA OF DEMOCRACY IN A NATION OF LAWS. HE SAID THAT HIS ADMINISTRATION WAS DETERMINED TO DEFEND FREEDOM AND LEGAL ORDER AND PROMISED FULL SUPPORT FOR THE POLICE AND OTHER BODIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH INTERNAL SECURITY. HE SAID THAT THOSE OPPOSED TO THE BASIC FREE DEMOCRATIC ORDER HAVE NO PLACE IN THE CIVIL SERVICE BECAUSE FREEDOM MUST DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST ITS ENEMIES AND CALLED FOR EARLY PASSAGE OF LAWS IN THIS REGARD. HE THEN REFERRED TO THE OPPOSITION'S 21-10 MAJORITY IN THE BUNDESRAT WHICH HE SAID MUST NOT BE USED TO SEEK TO BUILD AN OPPOSING GOVERNMENT AND ENDED BY SUMMARIZING THUS WHERE GERMANY NOW STANDS; THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IS GOOD; GERMANS LIVE SOCIALLY SECURE AND IN FREEDOM; INTERNAL PEACE AND PEACE IN THE WORLD HAVE BEEN STRENGTHENED; AND GERMANY IS RESPECTED IN THE WORLD AND HAS FRIENDS ABROAD.

HILLENBRAND

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